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AUTHOR Miller, Robert S.; Trujillo, Gregory
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ABSTRACT

Thirty-three private and public colleges and universities in the Pacific Northwest were surveyed in January 1977 for information about their policies and academic standards, suspension for academic reasons, and reinstatement after suspension. The responses of the 24 respondents, assigned numbers rather than institution titles, are presented here, along with the questionnaire. All but one of the respondents do have some academic standards policy for remaining in school and some system for implementing it. However, there is great variation in readmission practices and statistics. It is concluded that two factors are at work here: the person or persons making readmission decisions, and the students' perception of the process. In the readmission process the faculty is a very important element, and the process is dependent on the disposition of the individual faculty members. (MSE)

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A SURVEY OF ACADEMIC SUSPENSION POLICIES AND PRACTICES

R. MILLER
AND
G. TRUJILLO

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JANUARY 1978

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CENTRAL WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY
TESTING AND EVALUATIVE SERVICES
ELLENSBURG, WASHINGTON

A SURVEY OF ACADEMIC SUSPENSION POLICIES AND PRACTICES

Robert S. Miller
and
Gregory Trujillo

INTRODUCTION

An organizational and policy element of institutions of higher education not often examined is that of academic standards, suspension for academic reasons, and reinstatement for suspension. As a first exploratory step in gaining a better understanding of and perspective on our own situation, the writers sent a questionnaire in January, 1977, to thirty-three colleges and universities in the Pacific Northwest, both public and private. Of the thirty-three institutions who were sent the questionnaire, twenty-four responded.

The questionnaire was sent because early in the preliminary readings for this project, it was discovered that there is a distinct lack of literature pertaining to institutional policies and procedures in suspending and reinstating students who experience academic difficulties. The survey was intended to gain information on what the various universities and colleges in the Pacific Northwest do.

In our survey instructions, we indicated that we would make the results of the survey available to respondent institutions. The purpose of this brief paper is to report those findings. It is hoped that the results may be of some value. We also wish to point out that this report does not mark the conclusion of efforts in the study of the academic suspension policies and procedures. We will carry out further work and research in the matter.

RESULTS

Responses to the questionnaire items appear in Table 1. Institutions are not identified by name but rather by a number arbitrarily assigned. A description for each institution appears in Table 2, each identified by the same number.

The questionnaire is placed just ahead of Table 1. In Appendix A are the responses to Question 2 of the questionnaire. In Appendix C are the two letters we sent to each institution. In Appendix B are responses to our second letter, which please see in Appendix C. In these appendices the same system for indicating institutions is used. We did not ask for permission to identify institutions, and therefore feel obligated to protect the identity of responding institutions. If any reader wishes to be in touch with any of the institutions, we will undertake to forward any letters properly.

COMMENTARY

Twenty-three of the twenty-four responding institutions do have some policy regarding academic standards which students must meet in order to remain in school and some system which operates to implement the policy. The reader may see how they resemble each other as well as how they differ from each other. These similarities and differences will also produce differing reactions in the reader. Of course, similarities and differences were and could only be expected.

It appears to the writers that we have just made a start on understanding all the implications of academic standing. The reason for this conclusion is indicated by the great variance in responses to Questions 7 through 9. We can merely speculate why one institution finds less than 1% of its students applying for readmission after academic suspension and another institution finds 90% applying, or what operates in the various institutions so that the proportion of those reinstated varies from "very few" to "nearly all." We very tentatively conclude that there are two factors or variables at work, the first being the person or persons who actually make the judgments about reinstatement, and the second, coupled with it, is the perception students have of the process and how it works. Any institution which readmits more than half who have been suspended has certainly individualized and probably humanized or personalized the readmission process, but has also placed itself at the mercy of the idiosyncrasies of those faculty who make the readmission decisions, and contrariwise for those institutions who readmit very few of those who apply.

Students are perceptive, and it does not take them long to determine the probabilities of a decision going in their favor prior to appearing before a faculty body charged with making decisions about them. If they perceive the situation as advantageous to them, they will use it. Thus, we have some institutions reporting as high as 90% of their suspended students applying for readmission probably because the students perceive the chance of reinstatement as very high. On the other hand, if the probability of their success is very low, to make the effort might expend personal energy which could be better directed.

Very tentatively it could be concluded that the students also place themselves at the mercy of the idiosyncrasies of the faculty who make the decisions. It would, therefore, appear that in the readmission process, the faculty is a very important element, and what evolves from the process depends in part on the disposition of the individual faculty members. These tentative conclusions would appear to offer some direction for future investigation and study.

QUESTIONNAIRE

1. Does your institution have a policy of "academic suspension" for undergraduate students who fail to achieve an established academic criterion?
2. If yes to #1, what is the written policy statement of your institution? For example, at Central Washington University the statement in our undergraduate catalog is:

   > The student who is placed on academic suspension loses his right to register and is dismissed from Central.
   >
   > 1. Freshman students are suspended if, at the end of the second quarter at CWU, the current quarter grade point average and the accumulative grade point average are both below 1.5.
   > 2. Students with two consecutive quarters on probationary status at CWU will be suspended.
   > 3. Students who have been suspended from the college for low scholarship may petition the Academic Standing Committee for review of their eligibility to register.

3. May a suspended student petition for a setting aside of the suspension policy and remain in school?
4. If yes to #3, to whom or what body is the petition directed? (At Central the petition is made to our Academic Standing Committee and if rejected, to the Dean of Students.)
5. If yes to #3, does your institution have clearly established criteria for determining whether or not suspension may be set aside?
6. If yes to #5, what are the criteria?
7. Approximately what percentage of your suspended students petition for a setting aside of the suspension?
8. Approximately what percentage of petitioning suspended students are readmitted after petitioning to the appropriate individual or body?
9. Approximately what percentage of readmitted students are suspended again?

Table 1.

College Number	QUESTION NUMBERS 1	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1	Yes	Yes	Scholastic Committee	No Individual Consideration	NA	20%	90%	30%
2	Yes	Yes	Per Policy	No, each case individual	NA	90%	70%	30%
3	Yes	Yes	Board of Student Reinstatement	Yes, Student's basic ability and grades	Yes, Student's basic ability and grades	2%	50%	NR
4	Yes	Yes	Academic Deficiency Committee, then President	Each case on own merit	Each case on own merit	10%	60%	50%
5	Yes	Yes	Academic Standing	No	NA	unknown	62%	unknown
6	Yes	Yes	Scholastic Deficiency Committee	Yes	See 4 and 5	65%	60%	20%
7	No	NR	—	—	—	—	—	—
8	Yes	Yes	Dean of College Director of Admissions Registrar Dean of Students	NR	—	50%	25%	10%
9	Yes	Yes	President	No	—	<1%	All according to policy	NA

College Number	QUESTION NUMBERS 1	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	Yes	Yes	Committee on Scholastic Standing	"Logic of the argument has to persuade the committee"	---	"Almost None"	"Very few"	Unknown
11	Yes	Yes	Dean of the School of the Suspended Student	Policy of each Dean, no University-wide criterion	---	65%	"Nearly all, if they agree to Dean's stipulation"	56%
12	Yes	Yes	Academic Council	Qualified Yes	Some alternative successful academic experience	1 of 3	1/2 of #7	"very few"
13	Yes	Yes	1st suspension to Associate Dean of College, 2nd suspension to Academic Appeals Committee	No, but several questions	"Reasons for failure"	30%	90% first time	30%
14	Yes	Yes	Dean of Academic Services, appeal Academic Standards Committee	See letter	See letter	See letter	See letter	See letter
15	Yes	Yes	Academic Status Committee	NR	NP	NR	NR	NR
16	Yes	Yes	Committee on Academic Appeals	No	---	20%	10%	10%
17	Yes	Yes	Academic Requirements Committee	No	---	50%	64%	"Reasonably small"

QUESTION NUMBERS

College Number	1	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
18	No	Yes	Academic Status Committee	No	---	10%	50%	30%
19	Yes	Yes	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
20	Yes	Yes	"The Dean"	No	---	NR	Approximately 25%	No Experience
21	Yes	Yes	Academic Standing Council	No	"Must Convince the Council"	58%	80%	"No data Available"
22	Yes	Yes	Admissions Committee	No	"No Answer"	About 80%+	About 90-100%	About 50-60%
23	Yes	Yes	Dean of college in which enrolled	No	---	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
24	Yes	Yes	Academic Standing Committee	Committee Discretion	See #5	60%	90%	No data

Table 2.

College Number	Description/Type
1	State College
2	Four Year Liberal Arts, Private, Religious
3	Four Year Liberal Arts, Private, Religious
4	State College
5	State College
6	Major State University
7	State University
8	Four Year Liberal Arts, Private, Religious
9	State University
10	Four Year liberal Arts, Private, Religious
11	State University
12	Four Year Liberal Arts, Private, Religious
13	State University
14	Four Year Liberal Arts, Private, Religious
15	Four Year Liberal Arts, Private, Religious
16	State College
17	Four Year Liberal Arts, Private, Religious
18	State University
19	State College
20	State University
21	Land Grant University
22	State College
23	Land Grant University
24	State College

APPENDIX A

INSTITUTION #1

ACADEMIC SUSPENSION

If you are a first year student and are having academic difficulty, your case will be considered individually by the Scholastic Committee. After you have attempted thirty hours or more, should your GPA drop below a 2.00 and the number of cumulative grade points is 16 less than twice the graded credit hours attempted, the words "Academic Suspension" will be recorded on your official grade report and your scholastic record. Should this occur, you will not be able to register for the next term without approval from the Scholastic Committee. You are encouraged to apply for readmission immediately after you are placed on academic suspension. This may be accomplished through the Office of Student Development.

INSTITUTION #2

GUIDEBOOK STATEMENT

Students are placed on probation at the end of any term in which their grade point average falls below 1.75 or their cumulative grade point average falls below 2.00 (for freshmen, the cumulative grade point average is 1.75). Students continue on probation until their cumulative grade point average reaches the minimum 2.00 standard.

Students may be suspended at the end of any term in which their grade point average falls below 1.00, or, if after being placed on probation, they fail to earn at least a 2.00 grade point average for the succeeding term.

If there are mitigating reasons for unsatisfactory progress that results in suspension, students may appeal in writing to the Academic Review Committee through the Office of the Registrar. The written appeal should state the reasons for the low scholarship record and identify changed circumstances that will allow success in the field.

INSTITUTION #3

ACADEMIC PROBATION AND DISMISSAL

Only those applicants whose previous academic record and/or required tests indicate sufficient ability and educational development to complete a four-year Baccalaureate Degree are admitted to the college. All students are expected to maintain a level of achievement commensurate with their talents. When the cumulative grade point average of any student falls below a 2.00 a student is placed on probation. A student may remain on probation for two consecutive semesters only before dismissal.

REINSTATEMENT OF DISMISSED STUDENTS

A student who has been dismissed from the college may petition the Board of Reinstatement for hearing. The student may be reinstated only after favorable action by the Board. The chairman of the student's major area is consulted. A student who has been denied admission or continuation on probation may be permitted by the Board of Reinstatement to enroll as a special student for not more than two courses. At the end of the semester for which he was enrolled as a special student, he may apply to continue on the same basis, provided he has achieved a minimum grade point average of 2.50 for that semester and is still unable to meet minimum requirements for admission as a regular student.

INSTITUTION #4

Academic suspension - Any student whose cumulative grade point average is below a 2.00 for two consecutive terms will be suspended. This suspension is recommended by the Academic Deficiencies Committee. Students who have been suspended from the college by the Academic Deficiencies Committee may petition a sub-committee consisting of the Dean of Students, Director of Counseling, Director of Admissions and Registrar for review of their eligibility to register.

INSTITUTION #5

FRESHMAN WARNING	=	First or second term freshmen with cumulative or term GPA of less than 2.00. Freshmen with less than a 1.50 cumulative GPA must contact the Office of Student Services, prior to registration the following term.
ACADEMIC PROBATION	=	Term or cumulative GPA below 2.00. Recommend student contact advisor and/or counseling office for assistance.
ACADEMIC SUSPENSION	=	Not eligible to return until readmission granted by Academic Standards Committee. For more information and counseling contact Student Services Office.

INSTITUTION #6

ACADEMIC WARNING

1. Academic warning is established as a courtesy action to advise a student of potential difficulty. Subsequent action is not dependent on warning notice, nor will a warning become a part of the permanent record.

2. Conditions for Academic Warning:

   a) A student will be given an Academic Warning when academic performance for a particular term is unsatisfactory in terms of one of the following:

(minutes of 1/11/70)

INSTITUTION #6 (continued)

1) an accumulation of 2/3 of the total number of hours of N which would make the student subject to probation.
2) six or more hours of N during the term.
3) less than 65% of course work attempted is completed with credit during the term, exclusive of course work for which a mark of X is assigned.

ACADEMIC PROBATION:

1. Where there is evidence of a lack of satisfactory progress toward a degree, a student is placed on Academic Probation. This becomes part of the permanent record and remains so, unless "cancelled" by the Committee.

2. Conditions for Academic Probation.

a) A student will be placed on Academic Probation whenever any of the following conditions exist:

1) An accumulated total of hours of non-passing grades earned since Fall Term 1969 reaches the level specified below:

Cumulative Credit Hours	Total Hours of Non-Passing Grades
0-44	12
45-89	18
90-134	24
135+	25

2) If in each of two consecutive terms either of the following conditions exists:

a) six or more hours of N are received,
b) less than 65% of the course work attempted has been completed with credit. (Grades and marks of A, B, C, D, P, F, N, I, and Y are counted as work attempted.)

3) Based on the cumulative credit hours earned since Fall Term 1969 for students with Junior classification or above, less than 80% of the course work completed has been passed satisfactorily. (Grades and marks of A, B, C, D, P, F, and N are counted as work completed.) This rule will not apply until a student has accumulated 25 or more credits.

4) A record at the time of initial admission or re-enrollment which would have caused a student to be placed on warning or probation under current regulations. Notification of such action will be given to the student at the time the action is taken.

b) A student who has been continued on probation by the Committee, but whose cumulative hours of N are greater than the number which would normally subject him to disqualification, will be assigned the special probationary status of "deferred disqualification." While in this status he will be subject to disqualification under the following conditions:

1) in any term he earns one or more hours of N,
2) in any term less than 75% of the course work attempted is completed with credit,

INSTITUTION #6 (Continued)

3) Based on the cumulative credit hours earned since Fall Term 1969 for students with Junior classification or above, less than 80% of the course work completed has been passed satisfactorily. (Grades and marks of A, B, C, D, P, F, and N are counted as work completed.) This rule will not apply until a student has accumulated 25 or more credits.

4) A record at the time of initial admission or re-enrollment which would have caused a student to be placed on warning or probation under current regulations. Notification of such action will be given to the student at the time the action is taken.

b) A student who has been continued on probation by the Committee, but whose cumulative hours of N are greater than the number which would normally subject him to disqualification, will be assigned the special probationary status of "deferred disqualification." While in this status he will be subject to disqualification under the following conditions:

1) in any term he earns one or more hours of N,
2) in any term less than 75% of the course work attempted is completed with credit,
3) based on cumulative credit hours earned since Fall Term 1969 for students with Junior classification or above, less than 80% of the coursework completed has been passed satisfactorily. This rule will not apply until a student has accumulated 25 or more credits.

3. Removal from Academic Probation.

Removal or cancellation of Academic Probation under conditions other than those specified below will be by Committee action on a student petition. "Removal" does not remove the entry from the student's permanent record, whereas a "cancellation" does remove the entry from the student's permanent record.

a) A student will be removed from Academic Probation if, during two consecutive terms in residence, he has accumulated at least 24 hours of credit without being disqualified under the rules listed below. Part time students (enrolled for at least 3 hours but less than 12 hours per term) will be removed from Academic Probation if they have satisfactorily completed three consecutive terms in residence with a minimum of three credit hours per term. Enrollment for less than three hours will be ignored in determining the sequential enrollment pattern for establishing eligibility for removal from probation.

Examples:

1. Students enrolled Fall attempted 4 hours, earned 3 hours
" " Winter " 2 " " 2 " (skip)
" " Spring " 3 " " 3 "
" " Fall " 3 " " 3 "
Eligible for removal

2. Student enrolled Fall attempted 6 hours, earned 3 hours
" " Winter " 4 " " 1 "
" " Spring " 5 " " 3 "
(restart) " " Fall " 3 " " 3 "
" " Winter " 6 " " 3 "
Eligible for removal

INSTITUTION #6 (Continued)

(revised 5-13-76)

b) A student's first Academic Probation may be cancelled by the Secretary during the regular term (Fall, Winter, Spring) immediately following the action of the Committee under the following conditions if the academic record is thereby raised above the probationary level as specified in C 2.a)1) above.

1) receipt during the first three weeks of the term of removal of incompletes for the immediate past term,

2) an error in processing.

c) Academic Probation may also be cancelled by Committee action.

ACADEMIC DISQUALIFICATION:

1. Where there is evidence of a continued lack of satisfactory progress toward a degree, a student is disqualified from further attendance at the University. This becomes a part of the permanent record and remains so, unless "cancelled" by the Committee.

2. Conditions for Academic Disqualification.

a) A student on Academic Probation will be subject to Academic Disqualification whenever any of the following conditions exist:

1) An accumulated total of hours of non-passing grades earned since Fall Term 1969 reaches the level specified below:

Cumulative Credit Hours	Total Hours of Non-passing Grades
0-44	15
45-89	21
90-134	27
135+	28

2) In the current term, six or more hours of N are received, or less than 75% of the course work attempted has been completed with credit.

3) Based on the cumulative credit hours earned since Fall Term 1969 for students with Junior classification or above, less than 80% of the course work completed has been passed satisfactorily.

4) Whenever the academic record is such as to provide persuasive evidence that the University requirements for an undergraduate degree cannot be met within a reasonable period of time.

REINSTATEMENT

1. Reinstatement to the University will be considered by the Committee only after receipt of a formal petition from the student. Effective Fall 1971, such consideration will be contingent upon receipt of grade or mark changes, transcripts, petitions and all supporting documents on file in the Office of the Registrar no later than one month prior to the opening of classes; later receipts of documents will be considered for the subsequent term. Exceptions to this policy may be considered, where feasible in time, only

when it is evident that the student has been misadvised by the University. Such evidence may include one or more of the following:

a) academic work at another college or university,
b) academic work with the Division of Continuing Education,
c) academic work in Summer Session,
d) military service,
e) successful employment,
f) change in personal circumstances,
g) length of time since disqualification,
h) other circumstances which may be relevant

2. In those cases where a student has been "conditionally reinstated" i.e., reinstated pending receipt of records of recent study, the state of compliance will be reviewed during the first term of re-enrollment. In the case where a student is making-up an incomplete or is taking work either in the Division of Continuing Education or at another institution at the time of Committee action, a full term shall be allowed for a post-registration check.

3. The Committee will scrutinize with particular care the evidence for reinstatement after a second disqualification.

4. All students reinstated after disqualification will be placed on Academic Probation.

   a) A student who has been reinstated, but whose cumulative hours of N are greater than the number which would normally subject him to disqualification, will be assigned a special probationary status. While in this status, he will be subject to disqualification under the following conditions.

      1) in any term he earns 1 or more hours of N,
      2) in any term less than 75% of the course work <u>attempted</u> is completed with credit,
      3) based on cumulative credit hours earned since Fall Term 1969 for students with Junior classification or above, less than 80% of the course work <u>completed</u> has been passed satisfactorily.

5. Automatic Reinstatement.

   A student who has been disqualified because less than 75% of his course work attempted was completed with credit may be reinstated automatically by the Secretary if he meets all of the following conditions:

   a) the number of I's and Y's at the University have been reduced to 20% or less of the total number of the hours of work attempted... and
   b) one term has elapsed since disqualification...and
   c) the record of any work done at another institution contains no incompletes or non-passing grades.

6. Cancellation of Disqualification

(revised 5-13-76) A student's first academic disqualification may be cancelled by the Secretary during the regular term (Fall, Winter, Spring) immediately following disqualification for any of the following conditions if the resulting academic record is raised above the disqualification level:

INSTITUTION #6 (Continued)

(revised 5-13-76)

a) receipt during the first three weeks of the term of removal of incompletes for the immediate past term,
b) an error in processing,
c) the term record causing the disqualification action contained no more than one N grade.

INSTITUTION #7

We do not have any policies relating to academic suspension. At this point in time, students are allowed to enroll until graduation requirements are met.

INSTITUTION #8

Not available.

INSTITUTION #9 PROBATION

Condition: A student is placed on scholastic probation at any time the following occur:

1. The cumulative grade-point average is below 2.0.
2. The grade-point average for each of two consecutive semesters is below 2.0 though the cumulative average is 2.0 or above.
3. The grade-point average for any semester is below 1.0.

Restriction: The credit load of a student on probation is determined in consultation with the assigned faculty adviser and, when necessary, the dean or director of the school or college.

Release from Probation: A student who has reduced the deficiency to a 2.0 grade-point average on the cumulative record is no longer on probation. A student who had an overall 2.0 grade-point average or above at the time probation occurred is off probation at the end of the semester in which a 2.0 average or above is obtained.

SUSPENSION

Condition: A student deficient 15 or more grade points at the end of any semester is suspended from the University. If the class preparation, attendance, or progress of a student toward a degree is deemed unsatisfactory, the student may be suspended from the University at any time.

Penalty: A suspended student may not register during the fall or spring semester in any University course which involves classroom instruction for credit. Noncredit or audit enrollment is permitted.

INSTITUTION #9 (Continued)

Requirements for Readmission: To qualify for readmission, a student must earn a minimum of 6 acceptable semester credits if on first suspension, or 12 acceptable semester credits if on second suspension, with a 2.50 GPA or above. These credits may be earned in correspondence study, University summer session, or at another regionally accredited educational institution. The University suspension and disqualification regulations do not apply to a suspended student until official readmission occurs.

A student who is readmitted after suspension is on probation. Second suspension occurs whenever the grade-point average at the end of any semester is less than 2.0 and the total grade-point deficiency is 15 or more.

When the grade-point deficiency is reduced to minus 14 or less, the regular probation and suspension rules apply.

Readmission Procedure: A student under academic suspension may apply for readmission whenever the credit and grade requirements are satisfied as stated. An Application for Readmission must be submitted to the Director of Admissions and Registrar by July 15 to be considered for the fall semester or January 2 for the spring semester.

If the student has attended another educational institution since being suspended from the University, an official transcript must be submitted for evaluation. The $3 transcript evaluation fee is payable by check or money order and must accompany the application.

Applications for readmission are available upon request from the Office of Admissions and Records in the Administration Building.

DISQUALIFICATION

Conditions: A student readmitted after a second academic suspension is on probation. Disqualification occurs whenever the grade-point average at the end of any semester is less than 2.0 and the total grade-point deficiency is reduced to minus 14 or less, the regular probation and disqualification rules apply.

INSTITUTION # 10

1. Warning: If a student falls into one or more of the following categories:

   a) he/she has less than a 2.00 current term GPA

   b) he/she has up to and including 1.00 deficiency points

   c) he/she is not making acceptable progress toward graduation. Acceptable progress is defined as 2.5 course credits in the current term.

   Warning consists of a letter to the student and a note on his/her permanent record.

INSTITUTION #10 (Continued)

2. Probation: If a student falls into one or more of the following categories:

   a) he/she has had less than a 2.00 current GPA for two consecutive terms

   b) he/she has a deficiency of up to and including 1.00 deficiency points for three or more consecutive terms

   c) he/she had accumulated between 1.01 and 3.00 deficiency points during the preceeding terms.

   Probation consists of a letter to the student and a note on his/her permanent file.

3. Suspension I: If a student falls into one or more of the following categories:

   a) he/she is on probation for 2 consecutive terms

   b) he/she accumulates 6.00 or more deficiency points

   c) he/she qualifies to be placed on probation a third time during his/her career.

   Suspension I consists of suspension for one year. Additional consideration may be obtained by petition to the committee. Readmission to the college must be approved by the committee. Conditions under which a student may remain enrolled shall be stipulated by the committee at the time the student returns.

INSTITUTION #11

1. "A student will be placed on PROBATION* whenever the cumulative grade point average falls 12 quality points below a grade point average of 2.0. This calculation is made by multiplying by two the total hours in which he has been enrolled and subtracting twelve. If the answer so obtained is not exceeded by the student's total quality points, he will be subject to this regulation."

2. "Two successive probations will result in DISMISSAL from the University unless special permission to continue in attendance is obtained from the Dean of the School under which his major falls."

3. "Three successive probations will result in DISMISSAL for two semesters with no opportunity for appeal of the decision."

4. "Regardless of his cumulative GPA, no student will be dismissed if his grade point average for the most recent semester is 2.25 or higher. He will be allowed to re-enroll on continued PROBATION."

INSTITUTION #12

SCHOLASTIC PROBATION AND DISMISSAL

If the end-semester grade reports indicate that a student has failed to meet the minimum scholastic standards indicated below, he is not in good standing. Such a student upon vote of the Board of Review either is placed on scholastic probation or he is recommended for dismissal from the College for low scholarship. The actions of the Board of Review are subject to review by the Academic Council, which formally passes on all cases of academic dismissal. A student who has been dropped from the College for low scholarship may be reinstated only upon petition to the Academic Council.

Scholastic probation is a strong warning to the student that he must make substantial progress toward restoring himself to good standing during the following semester in residence or be dropped from the College for low scholarship. Normally, a student will not be continued on scholastic probation for more than two consecutive semesters.

The grade point average required to maintain good standing is as follows:

First semester of the freshman year	1.5 cumulative grade-point average
Second semester of the freshman year	1.7 cumulative grade-point average
First semester of the sophomore year	1.9 cumulative grade-point average
All subsequent semesters	2.0 cumulative grade-point average
Regardless of cumulative gpa	1.5 average for each semester

Students admitted with advanced standing must meet the grade point average requirement of that semester in which the amount of their transfer credit places them in order to maintain good standing.

A student on scholastic probation is restored to good standing when he completes the semester of his probation with grades of a quality required in the scale above.

INSTITUTION #13

REGULATION "L" — ACADEMIC PROBATION, DISQUALIFICATION, AND REINSTATEMENT

1. Academic Probation

   a. At the end of a semester, undergraduate students who do not attain the cumulative grade point average required for their rank (see regulation "L-5") are placed on academic probation for the next semester of enrollment and are referred to the appropriate academic dean for advising. The effect of this probationary status is to serve notice that if the student's cumulative record at the end of the next semester in residence is unsatisfactory he or she will be disqualified and ineligible to continue in the university.

   b. Students on academic probation who attain a cumulative grade point average higher than the minimum required for their rank are automatically removed from probation.

INSTITUTION #13 (Continued)

c. Students on academic probation who attain a grade point average of 2.00 or higher during the next or subsequent semester after being placed on probation, but whose cumulative grade point average is still below the minimum required for their rank, remain on academic probation.

2. Disqualification. Students on academic probation will be disqualified at the end of a probationary semester unless the minimum cumulative grade point average required for their rank, or a semester grade point average of at least a 2.00 is attained. After being academically disqualified, students must be reinstated in order to register.

3. Reinstatement

a. After a disqualification, students may be reinstated (i.e., have their eligibility to continue restored) by petition to and favorable action by their college.

b. After their first disqualification, students may be automatically reinstated by remaining out of the university for at least one semester.

c. Students who have been reinstated may continue to be reinstated with the approval of their dean so long as they attain a 2.00 or better grade point average for each semester following the first disqualification.

d. Students who attend another institution while disqualified must meet requirements applying to the admission of transfer students in order to reenter the university.

e. Students who are disqualified and reinstated by their college are reinstated on academic probation.

4. Dean's Referral. Students who attain a grade point average below 1.50 during a given semester without dropping below the cumulative grade point average required for their rank receive a dean's referral. Although this does not affect their eligibility to register, the students are referred to the appropriate academic dean for advising.

INSTITUTION #14

1. Any freshman student whose current grade point average for any quarter falls below 1.75 (C-) will be placed on probation.

2. Any sophomore student whose current grade point average falls below 2.00 (C) will be placed on probation.

3. Any freshman or sophomore student whose transcript shows two probational quarters will be dropped from the college.

4. Any undergraduate student whose transcript shows 90 or more quarter credits and whose cumulative grade point average is below 2.00 (C) will be dropped from the college.

INSTITUTION #14 (Continued)

5. Any student whose current grade point average falls below 1.00 (D) will be dropped from college.

6. Any undergraduate student who is placed on probation or dropped from the college for academic deficiencies will be notified by the Registrar's Office and will be given an opportunity to appeal.

INSTITUTION #15

A. Any student shall be placed on academic probation who does not maintain a 2.00 GPA in any semester and 2.00 cumulative GPA.

B. Ground rules for dropping students

   1. Any student whose GPA or cumulative goes below 1.00 in any semester shall be dropped.

      A written appeal may be received upon which the deans may reinstate. However, if the GPA is below .50, the Academic Status Committee must meet to determine reinstatement upon receipt of written appeal.

   2. A student on probation must make a sufficiently high GPA in the next semester so that a second semester like it will take him off probation.

   3. No student will be allowed to continue at the University if he does not remove himself from probation in two semesters.

INSTITUTION #16

ACADEMIC DISCIPLINE

A student in the College of Arts and Sciences or the School of Music shall be suspended if he fails to sustain satisfactory progress toward the completion of his degree program.

Satisfactory progress is defined as achieving grades of A, B, C, or P in at least two-thirds of the credit hours for which he has registered. A student shall receive a warning notice if, at the end of the two 7-week terms, he has not achieved satisfactory progress. If during the following two 7-week terms, he again fails to achieve satisfactory progress, he shall be suspended.

A student may petition the Dean of the School or college for modification of his/her suspension. Such a petition shall be made in writing, stating the specific extenuating circumstances which form the basis of his/her appeal.

Disciplinary rules for the College of Optometry appear in the catalog for the College of Optometry.

INSTITUTION #17

"The scholarship regulations established by the Academic Requirements Committee are based on the following principles: a. A student is doing satisfactory work when he maintains a grade-point average of 2.00 (C) or better for all college work and for all work and is making substantial progress toward the completion of other graduation requirements. b. A student failing to do satisfactory work any one term is placed on scholastic probation. c. A probationary student who achieves a grade-point average of 2.00 or better is continued on probation or removed from probation on the basis of conditions established by the Academic Requirements Committee. Details are available in the Registrar's Office. d. A probationary student whose grade-point average for any term falls below 2.00 will be suspended and will not be permitted to re-register without the consent of the Academic Requirements Committee, except during a summer session." Taken from class schedule 1976-77.

INSTITUTION #18

Nothing is published. Action is taken by our Academic Status Committee on each case individually.

INSTITUTION #19

ACADEMIC STANDING, WARNING, PROBATION AND DISQUALIFICATION

Students who have earned a current or cumulative GPA below 2.00 are placed on academic warning for not doing satisfactory work and normally receive official notice from the Dean of Undergraduate Studies.

Tolerance limits for academic probation and disqualification have been established by the faculty. These are based on total credits, calculated on the basis of total graded and pass credits plus graded credits at other colleges accepted as transfer credit, but on the GPA earned for only the courses taken at _____. They are intended to insure that the student is meeting graduation requirements with respect to his cumulative GPA by the time he begins his upper-division work. Consult the Time Schedule for current regulations on academic standing, warning, probation and disqualification.

Academically disqualified students are not permitted to register for any day or evening classes.

REQUALIFICATION

A student who is disqualified may be readmitted to the University upon petition to and approval by the Scholastic Standards Committee; the student's proposed academic program must have the approval of an academic adviser.

INSTITUTION # 20

During any quarter a student who is in danger of earning less than the registered amount of credit should be notified in writing of that danger by the faculty sponsor or program coordinator.

1. Academic Warning - A student who earns fewer than three-fourths the number of units for which he or she is registered in three successive quarters will receive an academic warning from the Deans, a copy of which will also go to the student's current or pre-registered coordinator or sponsor. This warning will strongly encourage that the student seek counseling from a member of the faculty or from staff in the Office of Counseling Services.

2. Required Leave of Absence - A student who has received an academic warning and who, at the end of the subsequent three quarters has earned fewer than three-fourths of the possible units registered will be required to take a leave of absence, normally for one full academic year. The action of requiring a leave of absence is subject to consideration by the Deans before it becomes effective. Re-entry at the end of the leave is contingent upon the student's supplying to the Deans evidence of readiness to assume responsibilities.

   A student returning from a required leave of absence will be expected to make normal progress toward a bachelor of arts degree. Failure to do so will warrant academic review by the Deans, and possibly dismissal on academic grounds.

3. Exceptions to the above will be allowed in cases of verified illness or other circumstances beyond the control of the student.

   A special case may occur from time to time when the student simply cannot match interests with what the school can offer in teaching, facilities, or other resources. When it becomes apparent during an advising period prior to formal registration for a new quarter that a student cannot continue in a current Coordinated Studies program or contract, find a place in another program, negotiate a new contract with any faculty or staff sponsor, or decelerate progress to work only in a modular course for one unit or credit, then he or she will not be enrolled for the new quarter.

INSTITUTION #21

ACADEMIC DEFICIENCY

38. An undergraduate who at the end of any semester has failed to maintain a 2.00 cumulative grade point average will be dropped and must have the permission of Academic standing to re-enroll.

39. An undergraduate student who at the end of two consecutive semesters has failed to maintain a 2.00 cumulative grade point average will normally not be reinstated.

INSTITUTION #21 (Continued)

40. Appeals will be considered only when there are unusual extenuating circumstances and must be submitted in writing to Academic Standing.

41. In evaluating admission credentials of transfer students or when considering reinstatement of former students whose cumulative gpa was below a 2.00 when they were dropped for low scholarship all work completed prior to a specified date, not less than four years prior to the time of application, may be disregarded and all credit withheld. After one or more satisfactory semesters following admission or reinstatement, the student may petition to restore some of the credits previously withheld. Only credit earned in courses graded C or better will be considered for restoration, and if approved, only the courses and credit (not grades or grade points) will be restored. Requests for admission or reinstatement and petitions for credit restoration will be considered by the Academic Advising Subcommittee for former students and by the Admission Subcommittee for transfer students.

Undergraduate students are expected to maintain at least a 2.00 cumulative grade point average (gpa) during their academic career. A student who falls below a 2.00 cumulative gpa is considered academically deficient and special action is required for continued enrollment.

A student who is deficient for the first time (Rule 38) is normally reinstated for a second semester. If the student is a certified major, reinstatement is the decision of the student's academic department. If denied reinstatement by the academic department, a student may appeal to the Office of Academic Standing for continued enrollment in another department (Rule 40). A student in the Curriculum Advisory Program is, under normal circumstances, automatically reinstated.

A student who is deficient for two consecutive semesters (Rule 39) is normally dropped. A student who feels there are important extenuating circumstances can appeal to Academic Standing (Rule 40). A student whose work is improving (semester gpa of 2.00 or better), even though the cumulative gpa is below a 2.00 for two semesters, is usually reinstated.

INSTITUTION #22

Students who are placed on probation for two consecutive semesters must have the approval of the Dean of Academic Affairs before they will be allowed to register for another term as a full-time student.

If a student is placed on academic probation for a third semester, the case is referred to the Admissions Committee. After a full assessment of the student's case, using all available advisement, the committee will recommend the action most appropriate for the student involved.

INSTITUTION #23

SCHOLASTIC PROBATION AND DISMISSAL

A student is placed on probation at the end of any semester in which the total number of grade points which he has earned while enrolled is less than twice the number of credits for which he has received such grades minus 12. A student on probation under this rule remains on probation until he has removed the grade point deficiency. A student on probation will be dismissed at the end of the spring semester of any year in which he obtains a cumulative grade average of less than 2.0 for the year unless the grades earned in that year be such as to take him off probation.

PETITIONS

A student may petition to the appropriate dean or committee of his college for consideration of problems of curricula or admission which are not covered by stated procedures. A student may petition:

1. Deletion of grades from computation in the grade point average (GPA) under the conditions which follow. (a) When a student changes to a radically different curriculum, lower division courses which are not required in nor appropriate to the new curriculum may be eliminated from computation of grade point average for the purpose of determining probation or graduation at the discretion of the dean who has responsibility for the new curriculum. (b) This adjustment will not be made until the conclusion of one semester in the new curriculum. (c) Courses that satisfy general requirements in the university cannot be removed from GPA computation.

2. Academic dismissal and reinstatement. Following academic dismissal and a lapse of one semester, a student may petition the Scholarship Requirements Committee for permission to re-enter the university. A student wishing to petition the Scholarship Requirements Committee for permission to re-enter the university must file his petition with the dean of the college no later than November 30 immediately prior to the summer session or semester in which he wishes to re-enter. If a student is given permission to re-enter the university, he will be admitted on probation and the rules under Scholastic Probation and Dismissal will apply.

A student who has been academically dismissed by operation of the scholastic probation rules may not take any course for credit. This includes continuing education courses. Such a student may be allowed to audit courses.

A student who is petitioning for re-admission after a second or third academic dismissal must submit a report from the Counseling and Testing Center before his petition will be acted upon.

INSTITUTION #24

ACADEMIC STANDARDS

The Academic Standing Committee has established criteria for determining minimum academic standards and the status of students enrolled in undergraduate programs is governed by them.

A. GOOD STANDING. A student is in good standing when both the quarter grade point average and the accumulative grade point average are 2.0 (C) or higher.

B. ACADEMIC PROBATION. Academic probation is a warning that unless the quality of academic work improves, students are in danger of losing the privilege of registering for classes offered.

1. Students whose quarterly and/or accumulative grade point average falls below 2.0 are placed on academic probation for the subsequent quarter.

2. Probationary status is terminated and students are returned to "Good Standing" when both the quarterly and accumulative grade point average are at least 2.0.

C. ACADEMIC SUSPENSION. Academic suspension is the loss of the privilege to register for classes offered.

1. Students, other than freshmen, will be suspended after two consecutive quarters of probationary status.

2. Freshmen students will be suspended after three consecutive quarters of probationary status.

3. Students who have been suspended from college for low scholarship may petition the Academic Standing Committee for review of their eligibility to register. Appointments for the review are made with the Office of the Dean of Student Development.

APPENDIX B

INSTITUTION #5

The primary rationale for our academic suspension policy is student centered. As a private institution, we are of the mind that an individual who is not receiving any benefit from our educational program (as measured by the grade-point assessment) ought to consider putting their resources to another use. Furthermore, it is unethical to lead an individual on regarding the attainment of a goal (the Bachelor's Degree) that is not attainable given the level of performance previously observed.

Any individual who feels that the goal is attainable can present their rationale for continuance. In almost all cases, the College will allow a concrete demonstration of this rationale through a probationary readmission.

Philosophically, we believe in the right of an individual to pursue a college education. However, no individual has an inherent right to graduate. The degree is in fact not granted, it is earned.

INSTITUTION #8

1. We don't want students to remain who aren't getting what they want. Comment: Students desire a diploma. If they're not achieving that goal with the services and assistance offered, then it does not benefit the student to remain only to pursue an unrealistic expectation.

2. We want to prevent the student from digging an overly deep academic pit. Comment: It's one thing to give students a second chance. It's quite another to see them dig a pit out of which they can never climb.

3. We want to "jolt" the student to a more realistic perspective of his/her past and present achievements. Comment: Students consistently tend to believe that they can hold a 40 hour per week job and maintain a "high" academic average. Many times, students fail to see that their academic problems are really priority problems, not ability problems. Academic suspension tends to help many gain a better focus of the priority problem. It may also provide the student with incentive to try harder.

I hope the above is helpful. Interestingly, our own experience as well as other research (Northern Iowa University) tends to show that retention of readmits is not high.

INSTITUTION #10

I am responding to your request for a rationale for our academic suspension policy. Essentially, our major interest is to keep students out of academic trouble if at all possible. We feel that through a series of notifications and advising sessions, many students will be helped in that they will be receiving advice and encouragement from our senior faculty members.

Aside from trying to keep students out of academic trouble, we additionally do not want them to accumulate such a large deficiency in their academic work that it is impossible for them to succeed at another institution should they decide to transfer away.

Our new system is set up with a view to warning students earlier regarding the consequences of academic deficiency, and through a conscientious program of outside help, we feel that we do a service to the student.

I hope this is sufficient explanation for you. I look forward to hearing from you regarding your study.

INSTITUTION #11

I have continually shuffled your letter of July 25 to the bottom of my pile hoping by the time it came to the top again, I would have a very wise response to your question concerning our pedagogical and philosophical considerations in developing a probation/dismissal policy. However, now that I am faced with your letter once more and am in no better position than I was before, I will try this time.

Ours is an open admission institution as mandated by the State Board of Education. Due to this fact, any high school graduate may attempt college level studies whether his/her interests or abilities warrant it or not. The rationale for academic suspension is two fold. First, it is felt that it is unfair to the student to encourage him/her to continue spending time and money failing or doing less than satisfactory work when it is apparent that it will be impossible for such a person to receive a degree from this institution. The second reason is that it is felt that these students waste valuable faculty time and fellow students' time if they lack the ability or motivation necessary to do college level work.

In addition, it is successful as a motivational or re-routing tool to the student who may have chosen the wrong field for his/her interests and abilities or is not performing up to his/her potential.

Whether these reasons are valid could be questionable, however, without some semblance of academic standards, it would be difficult to receive accreditation not to mention VA certification privileges as well as other federal student financial aid program eligibility.

If you have further questions, please feel free to contact me.

INSTITUTION #12

Upon returning from his vacation last week, _____ brought your letter of July 21 to me and asked that I respond to your request for a statement of a rationale which informs our probation/suspension/reinstatement processes. Without having seen the data which Mr._____sent to you, I can make the following comments:

1) We assume that entering students may need some latitude in order to become acquainted with the academic demands of the College. Therefore, we do not require them to have achieved a cumulative 2.00 GPA until the end of their fourth semester of enrollment. They must have at least a 1.70 Cumulative GPA by the end of their second semester of the freshman year.

2) With respect to whether or not a student should be continued on academic probation, the typical criterion is whether or not the student is improving his/her performance at a rate which, if continued, would make graduation possible.

3) If it becomes apparent that a student is not moving satisfactorily toward meeting graduation requirements, we attempt to determine that in sufficient time to permit the student to try other educational alternatives, e.g., enrollment at a community college.

4) Our habit is to grant reinstatement of a student who has dropped from the College for low scholarship only when the student is able to submit evidence which persuades the Academic Council that he/she is now able to do satisfactory work.

In sum, I would say that we attempt to act in the student's interest by maximizing educational opportunities both here and elsewhere, by attempting to minimize the damage which suspension might impose, and by insisting that the student accept responsibility for achieving an acceptable standard of work.

I hope that these comments will approximate the kind of information you are seeking and will be useful to you in completing your study.

INSTITUTION #14

In response to your July 24, 1977 inquiry and in the absence of any formal statement of _____'s academic standards philosophy I will outline the rationale behind our current policies and practices.

1. Our probation/drop rules seek early confrontations with students who are in academic difficulty.

2. Our reinstatement practices seek possibilities for and evidence of eventual academic success. Obviously, judgments are involved here. We try to make these judgments collectively.

INSTITUTION #16

In response to your letter of July 21, 1977, I can only say that the rationale for our academic suspension appears to be as follows:

In order to retain respect for the grading system and the academic integrity of the institution, it is necessary to have a base level below which aspirants are considered no longer serious contenders for academic success. At that point it is assumed that a period of personal reassessment and possibly a change of direction is needed. Because students frequently are unrealistic in their decision to maintain a continued assault upon the stumbling blocks of the academic world, a temporary but forcible extraction from the boiling stream of contenders, seems appropriate.

I trust this may be of some help. I believe it to be accurate.

INSTITUTION #17

May I add my response of — Why in the _____ did you ask that question? In all probability the question from time to time is debated depending on the nature of the times and the enrollment pattern of the college. There are many reasons, depending on the philosophy of the predominant people. I would believe that the community college ranks are probably the most clear voice asking for open enrollment without any restrictions placed on one's maintaining a particular place within the college academic circles. That philosophy was most likely expressed during times of budgetary wealth. It has not been repeated so often recently when budgets have been going down with increasing frequency.

On this campus I believe the rationale is rather straightforward. It seems to go as follows:

The state (taxpayers) maintain the institution for the public good.

If a student meets the entrance requirements the state will pay for a significant portion of the cost of educating that student. While the student also pays a share it is by no means the majority of the cost.

As a part of the contractual agreement wherein the state via the college provides the educational services as defined in its publications, the student is also required to demonstrate a certain level of competence via academic achievement (criteria - grades) that may provide an indicator as to the potential of his or her service to the state or community at large who foots the bill.

An arbitrary level of competence has been set at 2.00 or a C average as meeting that level of competence.

INSTITUTION #17

When a student provides clear evidence indicating that he or she cannot demonstrate that criterion level of competence, then the appropriate college officials decide whether the state will profit most by that student remaining or being asked to leave, until further evidence can be presented to the college indicating potential academic success.

This is a slightly onesided agreement but it by and large reflects the nature of most agreements between public institutions and individuals. I have yet to hear of a student successfully suing a college or university for not fulfilling its contractual agreements when the student has not fulfilled the academic standards of the institution.

INSTITUTION #24

While I do not recall responding to your questionnaire, I will be glad to share my thoughts on _____'s academic suspension/reinstatement procedure. The first question that some people might ask is, "why not let students register for as long and as often as they want to, regardless of their gpa—after all it's their money!" I have two responses to that one. First, many students are receiving some form of financial aid and it is not fair to allow them to receive such aid without meeting some basic academic criteria. Second, I don't believe it is fair to a student with an extremely low gpa each quarter to continue pursuing a higher education. An Academic Standing Committee, which is an arm of the faculty, can make certain recommendations to a student facing suspension, whether it is recommending to uphold the suspension or a visit to an advisor.

Somewhere I suppose we need to mention standards. After all, no institution of higher learning will confess to having no standards. We continually hear of prestigious "halls of ivy" lowering standards of admission in order to stem the tide of fewer students. Regardless of admissions criteria (which is another matter) most schools eventually have a system to prevent a student from registering if successful progress is not achieved. This is as it should be — we can guarantee every student a chance to pursue a higher education, but we don't have to guarantee that everyone is going to be successful in it.

It may be of interest to note that over 90% of the suspended students at _____ have been allowed to continue over the past year. However, each student faced a committee who made the decision to allow such continuation. The gpa cutoff of 2.0 or less for suspension may sound quite arbitrary but each student who has had two successive quarters below a 2.0 gpa and wants to continue at _____ must appear before the Academic Standing Committee. Students absent from _____ a quarter or more, after having been suspended, will make a re-enrollment application to the Admissions, Matriculation and Graduation Committee. (Hopefully, the Senate will pass this proposal).

Finally, our new advising system which will require all students to have mandatory advising for being on probation (preliminary to suspension) may help to alleviate the number of suspended cases.

Please let me know if you need an additional information. I would be glad to elaborate on any of these topics.

APPENDIX C

Central Washington State College
Testing and Evaluative Services
Ellensburg, Washington 98926

January 26, 1977

Dear :

Dr. Robert Miller, a member of our Counseling Center staff, and I recently began a project which was, in part, an attempt to follow-up students readmitted to Central Washington State College by our Academic Standing Committee. The committee is responsible for hearing appeals from suspended students and making decisions regarding their readmission to the college. We want to describe the committee, its responsibilities, and follow-up students it has readmitted to the college.

In preparation for the study, Dr. Miller and I began a search of the literature hoping to find some indication of what other institutions do in this regard and the degree to which readmitted students succeed or fail. We made what we feel was a painstaking search, but, much to our surprise, we were unable to locate any studies of this aspect of academic suspension.

Having failed to find appropriate background information, we feel it necessary that we ask some of our colleagues in the Pacific Northwest how their institutions handle this type of situation. We wish to build up a data base by which to evaluate our own efforts at Central.

We are asking for your cooperation in this brief survey. We would appreciate your responding to the questions attached. Please be advised that information received from you will be treated confidentially. Should you wish to have a report of our survey findings, please let us know, and we will be very happy to send you a copy.

We thank you in advance for any information that you may send to us.

Sincerely,

Gregory Trujillo, Ph.D.
Director
Testing and Evaluative Services

GT:rw
Attachment

CENTRAL WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY
Testing and Evaluative Services
Ellensburg, Washington 98926

July 21, 1977

Dear :

Six months ago we wrote you asking responses to our questionnaire about academic probation/suspension/reinstatement processes. You were kind enough to share that information with us, and we do appreciate it. The data has been tabulated for some time now, and we will shortly be sharing that back with you.

Now we have come to the "Why didn't we ask . . ." phase, so familiar to all of us who have done studies. Well, we didn't ask, and no one volunteered, what the rationale is for academic suspension in the first place. Hence, we would now like to ask what pedagogical and/or philosophical considerations have prompted you in the development of your academic suspension/reinstatement procedures, described for us by your responses to our questionnaire. We will share this information back with you also, as soon as we can.

Sincerely,

Gregory Trujillo, Ph. D.
Director
Testing and Evaluative Services

GT:rw